

# **The methodology of investigation of crimes against life (selected problems)**

## **Abstract**

The topic of this thesis is the methodology of investigation of crimes against life.

Due to the fact that this is undoubtedly a very wide topic and the investigation of all crimes against life follows the same principles using similar methods, this diploma thesis is focused on the method of a murder investigation as the most serious crime against life, if not the most serious criminal action of them all.

The first chapter of my diploma thesis is devoted to the substantive regulation of all crimes against life according to § 140 to 144 of the Criminal Code. In this part of the thesis, I describe the obligatory signs of their facts, ie. their object, subject, objective side, and a subjective aspect.

In the second chapter of this thesis, I deal with the criminalistics characteristics of the crime of murder, whose typical components are the way of committing, the personality of the perpetrator and the victim as well as the motive. As part of the thesis, I use examples from practice, namely cases of serial murders on which these typical characters can be shown.

In the third chapter of the thesis, I describe the general division of traces, including the typical traces that criminalists can find in investigating murders.

The fourth chapter of the work concerns the methodology of the investigation itself. In this section, I deal with the subject of the investigation, the investigator's initial investigations, in particular the work at the crime scene and the principles governing it, the investigative versions and, last but not least, the follow-up of the law enforcement authorities, pointing to the problems that may arise during the investigation.

The last fifth chapter is devoted to technical and scientific methods that are used to find out the key information from the traces. I have described the essence of these methods and, in selected cases, their brief history, including case reports, possible shortcomings or advantages of using various methods.